

12TH RABI-UL-AWAL IS NOT THE DAY OF DEMISE OF HOLY PROPHET (PEACE BE UPON HIM).

Compiled by: Muhammad Saqib Raza Qadri Attari

There are five sayings about the day of demise of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon Him) from the companions of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon Him) and different Imams and scholars of hadiths.

1. 12th Rabi-ul-Awal:

This statement is attributed towards Hazrat Ayesha and Ibn-e-Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them).¹

In this, 12th day of Rabi-ul-Awal is stated as the day of demise. Among the narrators of this hadith, one is "Muhammad bin Umar Al-Waqidi", who is popular in creating hadith and Imam Ishaq bin Rahaviah, Imam Ali bin Mudeeni, Imam Abu Hatim Al-Raazi, Imam Yahya bin Moeen (may Allah be pleased with all of them) unanimously declared that "Waqidi" is not "Siqqa" (i.e. Authentic).

Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal says that "Waqidi" is a liar and he fabricates hadiths.

Bukhari and Abu-Hatim Al-Raazi said that "Waqidi" is "Matrook" (i.e. rejected).

Murrah said that no one should accept hadith from "Waqidi"

Ibn-e-Aadi said that Ahadiths narrated by Waqidi are not free from amendments.

Zahbi said that Scholars of Hadith have unanimously declared "Waqidi" "Zaeef" i.e. feeble narrator.²

Therefore, the statement of 12th of Rabi-ul-Awal as demise day is absolutely and completely un-reliable and is not worthy to quote as a reference.

Remember, some researchers and muhaddiths have also stated "Waqidi" as reliable and on this basis, some Imams and scholars stated him as "Siqqa" (i.e. Authentic). If according to these Imams/ Scholars, we accept the authority of "Waqidi", still this statement of 12th Rabi-ul-Awal as demise day is not reliable. Because in the Hadith narrated from Hazrat

¹ Al-Bidaya wal Nihaya, Vol. 5, Page. 256

² Meezan-ul-Eciteedal fi Naqd-ur-Rijal, Vol. 2, Page. 425 & 426

Ayesha (may Allah be please with her), besides Waqidi, one narrator is Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Ali Suburrah.

Imam Ahmad bin Hanbal said that he (Muhammad bin Abdullah bin Ali Suburrah) used to create hadith.¹

And in the hadith narrated by Ibn-e-Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them), Ibrahim bin Yazeed is told as “Sheikh” (i.e. teacher) of “Waqidi”, who is strongly criticized as a “Zaeef” (i.e. a feeble narrator).

2. **10th Rabi-ul-Awal:**

This is also attributed towards Ibn-e-Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him).²

In this hadith, one narrator is “Saif bin Umar”, who is “Zaeef” and second narrator is “Muhammad bin Ubaidullah al-Aazmi, who is “Matrook” (i.e. rejected).³

3. **15th Rabi-ul-Awal:**

This is narrated with the reference of Hazrat Asma Bint-e-Abu-Bakr.

No reference of this statement is found in any published books of hadiths.

4. **11th Rabi-ul-Awal:**

This statement is attributed to Hazrat Abdullah bin Masood (may Allah be pleased with Him).⁴

No reference of this statement is found in any published books of hadiths.

5. **2nd Rabi-ul-Awal:**

This is the saying of a number of Sahaba/ Tabaeen (i.e. the followers of Sahaba) / Imams.

- i) Sayyeduna Ibn-e-Abbas⁵
- ii) Sayyeduna Anas bin Malik⁶ and his students.
- iii) Hazrat Saeed bin Jubair⁷

¹ Meezan-ul-Ecitedal lil Zahbi, Vol. 2, Page. 397 published by Anwaar-e-Muhammadi, Luhnnow

² Al-Bidaya wal Nihaya, Vol. 5, Page. 256

³ Taqreeb-ul-Tahzeeb by Al-Aasqalani, Page. 142 & 203

⁴ Wafa-ul-Wafa bi Akhbar-e-Dar-ul-Mustafa by Al-Samhoodi, Vol. 1, Page. 318

⁵ Tafseer Jame-ul-Bayan lil Tibri Vol. 6, Page. 51

⁶ Tareekh-ul-Ummam wal Mulook lil Tibri Vol. 3, Page. 197

⁷ Al-Itteqan fi Uloom-il-Quran, Vol. 1, Page. 27

- iv) Imam Suleman bin Turkhan Al-Teemi¹
- v) Aantra bin Abdur Rahman Al-Shaibani²
- vi) Saad bin Ibrahim Al-Zuhri³
- vii) Muhammad bin Qais Almadani⁴
- viii) Imam Muhammad Baqir bin Imam Zain-ul-Aabideen⁵
- ix) Hazrat Urwa bin Zubair⁶
- x) Hazrat Moosa bin Uqba⁷
- xi) Imam Ibn-e-Shahab-ud-Din Zohri⁸
- xii) Imam Laees bin Saad⁹
- xiii) Imam Abu Nua'een Al-Fazl bin Dukhain¹⁰
- xiv) Hafiz Ibn-e-Hajr Aasqalani has also verified the 2nd day of Rabi-ul-Awal with a comprehensive discussion on this topic and stated that the statement of 12th Rabi-ul-Awal as demise day is illogical and lacks any support and is an illusion/ misconception in real sense.¹¹

SOME OTHER REFERENCES FROM DEOBANDI/ WAHABI BOOKS:

Renowned history describer and writer of Seerat from Deobandi sect Shibli Naumani has stated 1st day of Rabi-ul-Awal as the demise day.¹²

The son of Muhammad bin Abdul Wahab Najdi, Sheikh Abdullah Najdi has stated 8th day of Rabi-ul-Awal as the day of demise of Holy Prophet (peace be upon Him).¹³

CONCLUSION:

It is evident from the above discussion supported with authentic references that the statement of 12th day of Rabi-ul-Awal as the demise day of Holy Prophet (peace be upon Him) is not reliable and is without certification. The same is the matter with the statements of 10th, 15th and 11th of Rabi-ul-Awal and the most commonly admitted and reliable verdict in this regard is the 2nd day of Rabi-ul-Awal. Hence, the objection on the celebration of Eid-e-Melad-un-Nabi (Sallah o Alaihi Wassalam) on the ground that **"it is the demise day so why we should celebrate this day"** is totally rejected and proved as contrary to the facts, hadith and the understanding of Sahaba, Imams and great scholars of Islam.

¹ Dalail-un-Nubuwaat lil Behaqi, Vol. 7, Page. 234

² Maalim-ul-Tanzeel lil Behaqi, Vol. 2, Page. 10

³ Al Bidaya wal Nihaya li Ibn-e-Kathir, Vol. 5, Page. 255

⁴ As above

⁵ As above

⁶ As above

⁷ As above

⁸ As above

⁹ As above

¹⁰ As above

¹¹ Fath-ul-Bari Sharha Sahih-ul-Bukhari lil Aasqalani, Vol. 8, Page. 130

¹² Seerat-un-Nabi lil Shibli, Vol. 2, Page. 160

¹³ Mukhtasar Seerat-ur-Rasool by Sheikh Abdullah Najdi, Page. 09